ALLEN BIAGGI. Administrator

(775) 687-4670 TDD 687-4678

Administration Facsimile 687-5856

Water Pollution Control Facsimile 687-4684

Mining Regulations & Reclamation Facsimile 684-5259

State of Nevada KENNY C. GUINN Governor



R. Michael Turnnspeed, Director

Waste Management Corrective Actions Federal Facilities

Air Quality Water Quality Planning

Facsimile 687-6396

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138 Carson City, Nevada 89706

September 10, 2003

NOTICE OF DECISION

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL Permit # NEV0098100 FOR THE MOONEY BASIN PROJECT

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection has decided to issue Water Pollution Control Permit NEV0098100 to Placer Dome America. This permit authorizes the construction, operation, and closure of the approved facilities. The Division has been provided with sufficient information, in accordance with NAC 445A.350 through NAC 445A.447, to assure the Division that the groundwater quality will not be degraded by this operation and that public safety and health will be protected.

This permit will become effective September 25, 2003. The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 445A.605 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.407. All requests for appeals must be filed by 5pm, September 22, 2003 on Form 3 with the State Environmental Commission, 333 West Nye Lane, Capitol Complex, Carson City, Nevada 89706. For more information, contact Bob Carlson at (775) 687-9401, toll free in Nevada at (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit the Bureau's website at http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm.

Comments were not received during the public notice period. However, Part I.B.2 was added to better define the hydrogeology beneath and adjacent to the facility and determine whether vadose or ground water monitoring wells may be warranted, and Part I.D.1 frequency was changed to quarterly to expedite establishment of make-up water qualities.

Note: This letter is for electronic distribution. A copy of the signed letter is on file at the address shown on the letterhead.